



Club Leaders



Earl K Wolf
President



Sharon L LaPointe
President-Elect



Wanda Bloomquist
Treasurer



Laska J Creagh
Secretary Past
President Club
Executive Secretary



Gene Klco
Assistant Secretary
Webmaster



Mark Steinberg
Rotary Foundation Chair



Robert Stephenson
Club Director



Christopher A. Lewis
Past President

Speakers

9/3/24-Mike Bills

Williamston Rotary 7:30a.m.
September 3, 2024

Attendance: Denise, Narda, Laska, Sharon, Jim Conroy, Earl, Ray, Rodney, Carol, Wanda, Merlin, Bob, Deb, Paul

Guests: Mike Bills, Certain League Farms

President Earl opened the meeting at 7:32am Bob read our vision statement

Updates on upcoming events:

- New members: Rodney and Carol Ray. Earl read the message for joining Rotary to them.



- Steve Terry Biography in tribute to our beloved member.
- District 6360 Foundation Raffle 7:30 Laska presented the District Rotary 6360 Foundation Rotary and passed around the raffle ticket sign-up sheet. We strive for 100% participation. Thanks to those that signed up today and have since texted that they are in!
- Red Cedar River Day Celebration 7:30 Sharon
 - 2nd annual, last year to clear the river to make it navigable
 - Other area Rotaries are involved, we're the most diligent of the Rotaries.
 - The river is an asset for rest, recreation, beauty
 - Many booths, ex.- reclaimed wood, music, history
 - Map of the celebration on the handout
 - She explained the punch card 7:30 the lure to get people to visit the variety of booths and the more you visit, the better your chance of winning the kayak

Guest Speaker Mike Bills, Certain League Farms





- Lives on 5155 Zimmer Road since 1991, loves living here and in the township
- Grad of MSU
- Moved much with Dad's job with GM
- Mike learned to "fix" companies
- There are not appropriate options for special needs children after age 26
- He and his wife opened a Men's Special Need House
- His past work in Detroit, reinventing that city, taught him that you can't tax people more, you have to come up with other ways to do things differently and better.
- The Pandemic shook up the process
- They bought the 50 acres across the road to offer daily programming for special needs
- Cleaning up the 50 acres and house. This space for their Special Needs population to go to have their own place.
- He passed a book around for us to peruse, "The Perfect Christmas Tree"
- It's 501C3, the book, illustrated by one of the special needs. The author offered the money raised to offset the tuition of this day program.
- The whole genesis of their farm is looking at things as an asset or a liability. It's a mindset change
- They view this special-needs population as an asset; state needs to change the rules for how we deal with special needs and Mike and his wife are motivated to make change happen to change the outcome.
- Completed their first 6-week horse care course
- It's a bit like risk management, they are not conservative in their investments
- Mike made a request for our club to consider supporting their effort
- Due to the rural nature of this setting, many programs will be outside in nature and Ag based
- They grow asparagus, have honey, make soap, raise beef, sell straw to raise money for the benefit of the population they serve. They buy straw by the mile and sell it by the inch. Everything they do has a margin and that funds internally what they do. In first the private and then public (government) if they want to participate.
- They have people, place and want to create programming.
- Disruption is the first step of change

Happy Dollars all around!

- 4 Way TEST

Upcoming meeting dates:

- **Next Meeting " September 17, 7:30am at WUMC**
- Satellite Volunteer Services Committee " Thursday, Sept 19, 5:30pm Zynda's
- Red Cedar River Day Celebration " September 8, 12-4pm. Set up begins at 11:00am
- Service Projects " TBD
- Membership " TBD

Thought for the Week

By Gene Klco on Monday, July 1, 2024

"Either you run your day or your day runs you!" Jim Rohn

Every moment of the day we are faced with a choice. Will we let other people and the current circumstance rule our attitudes and actions or will we see them as a chance to become more of the person we truly want to be?

I'm not saying the choice to rise above all the noise in the moment is easy, just the better choice. Rising above it allows us to influence not just our own sense of happiness and well being, it also gives us the power to make it better for others.

Today RISE, you can do it if you choose to!

Joke of the Week

By Gene Klco on Monday, July 1, 2024

Why do Auburn fans wear orange? So they can dress that way for the game on Saturday, go hunting on Sunday, and pick up trash on Monday.

What does the average Alabama player get on his SATs? Drool.

How many Michigan freshmen football players does it take to change a light bulb? None. That's a sophomore course.

How did the Auburn football player die from drinking milk? The cow fell on him.

Two Texas A&M football players were walking in the woods. One of them said, "Look, a dead bird." The other looked up in the sky and said, "Where?"

What do you say to a Florida State University football player dressed in a three-piece suit? "Will the defendant please rise."

How can you tell if a Clemson football player has a girlfriend? There's tobacco juice on both sides of the pickup truck.

What do you get when you put 32 Kentucky cheerleaders in one room? A full set of teeth.

University of Michigan Coach Jim Harbaugh is only going to dress half of his players for the game this week. The other half will have to dress themselves.

How is the Kansas football team like an opossum? They play dead at home and get killed on the road.

How do you get a former University of Miami football player off your porch? Pay him for the pizza.

September Birthdays

By Gene Klco on Sunday, September 1, 2024

Wishes for a Happy Birthday in **September** go out to:

Mark Steinberg September 1

Janet Eyster September 14

Simone Raney September 15